

## CALLED TO THEIR COUNTRY'S SERVICE

**140 More St. Francois County Boys to Leave Monday to Take Up Army Duties--Leavetaking to Be Quiet**

Next Monday will witness the departure of 140 more of the young men from St. Francois county, to enter upon training for army duties. They will be taken to the Camp Funston, Kans., cantonment, leaving DeLassus at 2:00 p. m. At a meeting of the County Council of Defense, which was held Tuesday evening, it was decided not to make this leave-taking an occasion for any patriotic display. There will be no speech making or parading, such as marked the departure of the first contingent, as there is a feeling of opposition to such a program, at least among some of the young men who are to go.

It was the sentiment of the Council of Defense that the opinion of those who are going to the front was overshadowing as to what arrangements should be taken to show the heartfelt interest of the citizens of this county in their departure. It was therefore decided not to have any unnecessary demonstration, but to make it an occasion of quiet and prayerful good-byes, God-speeds, loving hand-clasps and affectionate farewells. However, the Desloge band has been asked to be present to furnish patriotic and soul-stirring music to add enthusiasm, and the ladies of Farmington and community will again serve a splendid farewell dinner to the boys. The former dinner served was greatly appreciated by those in whose honor it was given, and no effort will be spared to make the dinner next Monday equally as palatable.

Following is the complete list, together with the Order and Serial Nos. of the soldiers who will leave Monday. The first twenty names are of those who were not required to go until the next contingent, but who desired to go at this time:

- |       |      |                                       |
|-------|------|---------------------------------------|
| Order | No.  | Name                                  |
| 200   | 888  | Bruno Verna, Flat River.              |
| 1470  | 1842 | James Benton Son, Bonne Terre.        |
| 1600  | 1459 | Vincent Elbert Thomure, St. Francois. |
| 1762  | 3166 | Luther Johnson Tinsley, Franklery.    |
| 1961  | 283  | Robert E. Lee Priestler, Farmington.  |
| 1975  | 1855 | William Riley Saffell, Bonne Terre.   |
| 2016  | 1718 | Benjamin Francis DeClue, Bonne Terre. |
| 2044  | 148  | George D. Roach, Festus.              |
| 2060  | 251  | Joseph Levi Hudson, Farmington.       |
| 2102  | 69   | Roy Meacham Green, Farmington.        |
| 2103  | 1116 | Monte Alexander Edmonds, Elvins.      |
| 2435  | 2767 | Jonnie Morlan, Elvins.                |
| 2460  | 2230 | Joseph Ewing Duvie, Doe Run.          |
| 2471  | 1243 | John Hahn, Leadwood.                  |
| 2645  | 219  | Henry Alvin Cleve, Farmington.        |
| 2851  | 2253 | Thomas W. Marshall, Knob Lick.        |
| 2976  | 3275 | Elafarios H. Vassilion, Irondale.     |
| 2994  | 2400 | Firmin M. Eaton, Desloge.             |
| 943   | 2075 | Bradbury E. Burnette, Farmington.     |
| 49    | 2070 | Frank Skucki, Leadwood.               |
| 94    | 2501 | George McIntyre, Desloge.             |
| 97    | 1178 | William Jacob Udall, Flat River.      |
| 121   | 2599 | Walter Amos Forshee, Desloge.         |
| 148   | 2319 | Ollie Mayberry, Doe Run.              |
| 159   | 1099 | Clarence Boyce, Anna, Ill.            |
| 182   | 721  | Marion McDaniel, Flat River.          |
| 214   | 3152 | Monta William Moore, Franklery.       |
| 246   | 726  | John Newcomb, Caledonia.              |
| 254   | 3079 | Frank Eugene Seaborn, Leadwood.       |
| 270   | 645  | John Benjamin Lancaster, Flat River.  |
| 305   | 2269 | John Adam Wilkerson, Knob Lick.       |
| 347   | 2225 | Jesse Aaron Bible, Knob Lick.         |
| 359   | 1141 | Fred William Karl, Elvins.            |
| 364   | 1430 | Sam Middleton, St. Francois.          |
| 372   | 9233 | John David Anderson, Flat River.      |
| 410   | 2082 | James Omer Matkin, Bismarck.          |
| 424   | 363  | Edgar Beckley, Flat River.            |
| 447   | 1112 | William Deitch, Elvins.               |
| 472   | 1256 | Stanistaw Konszizik, Esther.          |
| 491   | 2231 | Thomas Canteberry, Knob Lick.         |
| 403   | 3249 | Fred F. Gentry, Leadwood.             |
| 505   | 2263 | Harry E. Robinson, Knob Lick.         |
| 550   | 3279 | Otto Whaley, Collinsville, Illinois.  |
| 553   | 1002 | Milton Earnest Lavy,                  |

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## DATE FOR HEARING HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED

**State Tax Commission Will Sit in Farmington on March 11th for Hearing of Tax Assessment Complaint**

The State Tax Commission has fixed March 11th for a sitting in this city to sift out the merits of the returns of County Assessor Lawrence O. Wells for the present year's assessed valuation of the property values in St. Francois county. On that date the Tax Commission will sit with the County Court, when the question of whether or not the assessment returns for the present year are just and equitable will be thoroughly gone into, the first meeting of that body to convene at 9 o'clock on the above date.

Owing to complaint having been made by some of the great mining companies of the county, claiming unjust, unequal and unfair assessment of their properties, in comparison with the assessments that have been returned by Assessor Wells on farm and city property, the State Tax Commission agreed, and very justly. The Times believes, to hold a hearing in the matter in Farmington, with the end in view, doubtless, of permitting all taxpayers of the county, (who may be interested in this very important matter, and who are not) to appear before them to present their side of the matter, to the end that the hearing may be thorough and complete, which it could not be if such hearing were held in the offices of the Commission in Jefferson City.

The Times is informed that there is no provision in the law authorizing the County Court to make any appropriation of county money for the purpose of employing counsel to represent the people in this matter, so that any assistance the Prosecuting Attorney may have will have to be raised by individual contributions, which has, so we are informed, already been arranged for. While the lead companies will doubtless have a glittering array of legal talent to attempt to make it appear to the Tax Commission that their clients are the victims of an attempted "hold-up," there is no doubt but that the other taxpayers will be capably represented. Then, too, the fact that the hearings will be right here, in the very midst of the territory that is affected by this hearing, will enable the farmers and all others interested to be on

hand to present the real facts in the case. So that while the array of legal talent that will be on hand to show that the lead companies are being discriminated against will doubtless be overwhelming, The Times believes that such shadows will fail to be reflected over the testimony that will be given in by the ordinary taxpayers.

The facts seem to be that the great mining corporations are peeved because of the fact that they are finally being called upon to pay something nearer a just tax rate on their holdings than they have ever before been asked to pay. The conditions that have heretofore existed in regard to this matter is also easy of explanation. The great mining companies have heretofore been in control of certain of the county officers, which it has been "getting by" with a mere semblance of tax-paying. The facts are that the assessed valuation of the great mining companies of St. Francois county are not yet nearly as high as they should be, or as they will be in the future. But the progress that has recently been made of elevating such assessment is most commendable, for which Assessor Wells is entitled to great credit.

The Times would not be at all surprised if, after the proposed hearing has been completed before the State Tax Commission, providing the evidence that is attainable is produced at such hearing, if Chairman Roach would recommend a further raise in the assessment of the mining companies. They would easily stand an "elevation" of several million dollars more without reaching the actual cash value of their immense holdings, as is required under the present law. Just one thing is now needed in order to make the special hearing on March 11th a splendid victory for the resident taxpayers of St. Francois county—the tax-paying citizens, from all parts of the county, must be present in numbers at such hearing, if they desire to protect their own personal interests. Do not wait to be summoned. No summonses will be issued. You must come of your own initiative, in the interest of truth, right and justice.

## Farm Bureau, With Increased Membership, Reorganized Under Government Plan

The St. Francois County Farm Bureau held its annual meeting in the Circuit Court room in this city last Saturday, the meeting being preceded by a successful two weeks campaign for increased membership. At this meeting the Bureau was reorganized to conform with a plan which has recently been worked out by the Department of Agriculture at Washington.

Under such plan there was elected at Saturday's meeting an Executive Committee, each of whom is to act as chairman of some special line of agricultural improvement or development with which he is best acquainted. The County Farm Agent is to co-operate with such Executive Committee in carrying forward demonstration work in different communities throughout the county. Each community having a membership in the Farm Bureau will have an Executive Committee, which will select, through the County Executive Committee and the Farm Agent, and carry out demonstration work that is best suited to the peculiar needs of such communities.

The following members were chosen at Saturday's meeting to serve on the County Executive Committee for the ensuing year:

President—J. W. Buck.  
Vice-President—W. D. Ashburn.  
Treasurer—M. P. Cayce.  
Secretary—LeRoy Johnson.

Other Committee members—Chas. Schuttler, C. B. Denman, W. E. Matkin, J. M. Besterfeld, F. T. Haile, E. Swink, C. H. Menge, W. J. Martin, and J. Clyde Akers.

- |      |      |  |
|------|------|--|
| 1160 | 1561 | Julius Moyn, Bonne Terre                     |
| 1161 | 1901 | Benj. Harrison Wright, Bonne Terre.          |
| 1169 | 1161 | Walter Jackson Richardson, Elvins.           |
| 1176 | 1907 | Lee Yarbough, Bonne Terre.                   |
| 1181 | 311  | Bonnie Giles Hunt, Farmington Route 6.       |
| 1188 | 2169 | Charles Monta White, Franklery.              |
| 1201 | 1367 | John Flowers, Steele.                        |
| 1206 | 240  | Jesse Haynes, Farmington.                    |
| 1225 | 634  | Arvil Lee, Flat River.                       |
| 1230 | 2333 | John T. Swinford, Doe Run.                   |
| 1239 | 76   | Stanley Haynes, Farmington.                  |
| 1240 | 1897 | Charles Emmett Wilfong, Bonne Terre.         |
| 1242 | 2797 | Francis Abraham Gilbert, Polite, Elvins.     |
| 1252 | 2118 | Clarence Ray Woolford, Bismarck.             |
| 1257 | 1306 | Emory Smith, Esther.                         |
| 1260 | 1068 | Emmett Arthur Smith, Farmington Route No. 1. |

## THE BLUE CROSS

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## Does Farmington Want a Park?

The few pleasant spring-like days the past week have revived talk of the long-hoped-for public park which Farmington ought to have, and could have, if everybody would get behind the movement and push it to a conclusion. One hears on every hand, especially in the spring and summer, the expression, there is "no place to go and nothing to do" for recreation and amusement in Farmington—wherefore the pool rooms, and the street loafing places do a "thriving business," and the neighboring towns and public highways get the evening-and-Sunday crowds of young people, right along.

At comparatively slight expense Farmington could have a beauty spot, where citizens generally could go for rest and recreation, and to get that "one touch of nature which makes the whole world kin." There are quite a good many people in Farmington who are "in favor of it," and recognize the need—but without united effort another year will pass by with nothing done. The Times suggests that a committee be appointed by the Business Men's Club to take up the matter, look into it, and work out some practicable plan by which this much-needed improvement in the life of the town can be brought about.

In some towns, indeed in many of them, in Missouri and other States, the need has been met in the original laying out of the town. Oft times the "city park" is located near the center of the business life of the town, and readily accessible from all points. But this was evidently overlooked in the planning of Farmington, so it is up to the citizens to remedy the defect by planning now and building a well improved park such as hundreds—yes, it is fair to say, thousands—of other towns all over the United States have and enjoy.

## A Splendid Man Called Elsewhere

J. H. Eaton, of Leadwood, was treated to an agreeable surprise this week. The one hundred employees under him, at the extensive Leadwood mill, presented him with a gold watch and chain, as a token of their appreciation of the kindness, consideration and courtesies he had extended them, during fourteen years he had been their employer.

Mr. Eaton's resignation took effect February 1st. An attractive, lucrative position tendered him in Miami, was the cause of his tendering his resignation. While the position tendered him was not sought, he duly appreciated the compliment of the tender.

In his departure this county loses one of its best citizens, and the Bonne Terry Lead Company loses one of their best machinists and one of their most active, faithful and efficient mill captains.

Seven carloads of fertilizer were ordered co-operatively last fall through the farm clubs.

One farm produce exchange was established.

Through special campaigns for increased production made by the County Agent it is estimated that the campaign alone increased corn production 6000 acres or 150,000 bushels; potatoes 205 acres of 12,000 bushels; beans 15 acres or 135 bushels, and wheat 6000 acres.

1200 persons were given information on storing fruits and vegetables. 322 farm visits were made. 1476 persons called on the County Agent for information at the Farm Bureau office.

144 meetings were held over the county with a total attendance of 6418.

16 farmers' clubs were organized with a total membership of 403. 7 garden and canning clubs were organized with a total membership of 555.

14 boys' and girls' clubs were organized with 140 members. 45 meetings were held in the county with specialists from the Agricultural college.

## U. S. Lumber Inspector Here

The enormous demand of the government ordnance department for walnut of which to make gunstocks has caused a widespread demand for walnut lumber everywhere this kind of timber grows, and in St. Francois county the price has risen to an unprecedented point, until now, for 14-inch and 15-inch logs a price of \$30 in the tree or \$40 on the track, per thousand feet, is offered, with about \$5 additional if loaded on the cars. For every two inches over the 15-inch size, \$10 more per thousand feet is offered, and the very large size logs command a price of \$15 more per thousand.

Despite this unparalleled price, quite a good many owners of walnut timber have shown a reluctance to part with it, probably supposing that by holding on for a while a still higher price would be offered, and in some cases, possibly, there has been some reluctance to let the government have the timber at all.

The situation reached a climax Monday, when Lieut. B. Herod, of the Ordnance Department, of Washington, D. C., accompanied by J. W. Norris, of Bismarck, and Mr. Fletcher, of the Illinois Walnut Co., of East St. Louis, came to Farmington on a mission of persuasion, to show the owners of walnut timber their duty to the government and induce them to part with their holdings. It is understood that the government officer succeeded in securing quite a lot of timber. He saw a good many people, and it is his duty to go to other places on the same mission, until a sufficient supply is secured. He explained that it was not his function to commandeer the timber, but to explain to the holders that it is their patriotic duty to let the government have it, and also that the prices prevailing now are not only greater than has ever been the case before, but also greater than is ever likely to be the case again. Certainly after the war the price will slump, according to Lieut. Herod, and now is the golden moment to sell and get the best price for the timber.

Mr. Norris, together with the local buyer, W. W. Waters, have succeeded in getting quite a considerable quantity during the past few weeks, but nothing like the quantity required, nor anywhere near the reasonable quota of this timber it is reasonable to expect from St. Francois county. There is a great deal of walnut standing in this county, but it mostly in possession of those who either fail to see their patriotic duty, or who are in comfortable circumstances and feel able to hold it for a higher price.

But in line with the policy of the War Department to speed up everything in preparation for warfare, the Lieutenant was sent out to speed up the accumulation of sufficient quantity of walnut lumber for all contingencies. One point emphasized was that while the usual markets for walnut lumber will take only "even lengths," the War Department finds use for any length from 8 feet up.

## Farmington Ladies Make Good Showing

The secretary of the local chapter of the Red Cross is in receipt of a very complimentary letter from the Chairman of the Standards Committee of the American Red Cross, Bureau of Supplies, in connection with the receipt of the last shipment, on February 4th, of articles made by the local chapter for the use of the soldiers. The chairman states that the articles were "extremely well made," and compliments the ladies highly upon their patriotism and interest and earnestness in providing relatively such a large quantity of articles as called for. Among the articles shipped were 139 bed shirts; 126 pairs pajamas; 108 surgical dressings; 82 convalescent robes; 48 operating caps; 48 operating gowns; 24 operating leggings; 24 operating socks; 19 pair woolen socks; 13 woolen sweaters; 6 pair of wristlets; 6 handkerchiefs, and one scarf. All of the articles sent have gone "overseas," and the good work is still going on, thus proving once again that Farmington always "does its bit," and that the ladies particularly recognize their patriotic duty and are ever ready and willing to render the best and most efficient and enthusiastic service in the great work of aiding in the winning of the world war for democracy and justice.

Miss Albertine Williams of Bonne Terre was the guest of Miss Florence Mitchell a couple days this week.